

The Washington Times

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SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1919.

This Reader Wants to Know
What Patriotism Is

We Quote a Very Wise Man on the Question.

A reader of this newspaper sends us the following letter:

My Dear Editor:

I have been reading the somewhat meager accounts that Eastern newspapers are publishing of the Ford libel suit. I judge that, having charged Mr. Ford with being an anarchist, they are endeavoring to substantiate the title. I had thought that Mr. Ford was a patriot. Now I do not know whether he is or not. As a matter of fact, I am not sure what patriotism is, I mean the kind that everybody will accept as the simple pure article. Perhaps you will give me the definition.

A. C. PHILLIPS.

It would be a very difficult thing to frame a definition for "patriotism" that would suit everybody.

What would appeal to the profiteer as being ample might strike the "ultimate consumer" as being a little scant in detail.

What would be strong enough for a politician might be only "near beer" to the voter.

However, by going to an authority pretty well known for his patriotism we may get a fairly satisfactory description.

Samuel Johnson, who started as a ragged boy, grew up to write, among other things, a dictionary. It was a rather poor dictionary, because you had to get another dictionary to find out what some of his definitions meant.

But regarding "patriotism" he was pretty plain, and this is his definition:

"A patriot is he whose public conduct is regulated by one single motive, the love of his country; who as an agent in Parliament (if he had been an American, he would have said Congress) has for himself neither hope nor fear, neither kindness nor resentment, but refers everything to the common interest. . . . He makes no vague and indefinite promise of obeying the mandates of his constituents. He considers himself as deputed to promote the public good and to preserve his constituents, with the rest of his countrymen, not only from being hurt by others, but from hurting themselves."

There may be other things that a patriot might be, but he must be what Mr. Johnson details, and the politician or the common citizen who lives up to the Johnsonian standard, while he might be charged with un-Americanism, would never be convicted.

P. S.—Mr. Johnson also said, "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel." That, however, does not make a patriot out of the refugee.

A Hint to the Department of Commerce

To The Editor of THE TIMES:

Appropos to your timely article in The Times of June 2, 1919, relative to the coffee situation, I am impelled to call your attention to an address I heard delivered about two years ago by former Commissioner of Labor, Robert H. La Follette, who stated that climatic conditions, cheapness of labor, etc., was conducive to a large cultivation of coffee on the Porto Rican island, however, the demand for sale of the island product is nominal.

Certain dealers in coffee claimed to import the product from the island were retailing it at 40 cents and upward per pound prior to the late war, thus discouraging the use of the island product instead of encouraging it by selling the same at a reasonable price.

As these islands are United States possessions, it has occurred to me that the Department of Commerce should take this matter in hand to help develop not only the coffee but also the banana industry, arrange for proper shipping facilities, thereby independent in a measure of the foreign traders and others who are inclined to take advantage of us by such exorbitant prices as are charged these days for these necessities of life.

Our friends on the island I am sure would appreciate any assistance along this line as they need all the help we can give them in a commercial and industrial way. As you have started the ball a-rolling I will leave it to you to urge the Department of Commerce to take this matter up without delay. R. J. J.

Embers

By SERGT. MAJOR J. CLARENCE EDWARDS,
Headquarters, First Army, A. E. F., France.

Yes, the time is hanging heavy,
For the boats are hauling home—
When you look into the embers,
"Stead o' fire you see the foam
Of a swaying, spraying ocean
And the miles on miles of blue
That are waiting with the distance
That's between your folks and you.

And you maybe take the bellows
That the Poilus used to blow
Up the lazy, backward blazes
Or the coals that "loaf" below.
And you're apt to keep on pumping
When the fire is under away,
For the embers are your ocean
And your dream-boat's on the way!

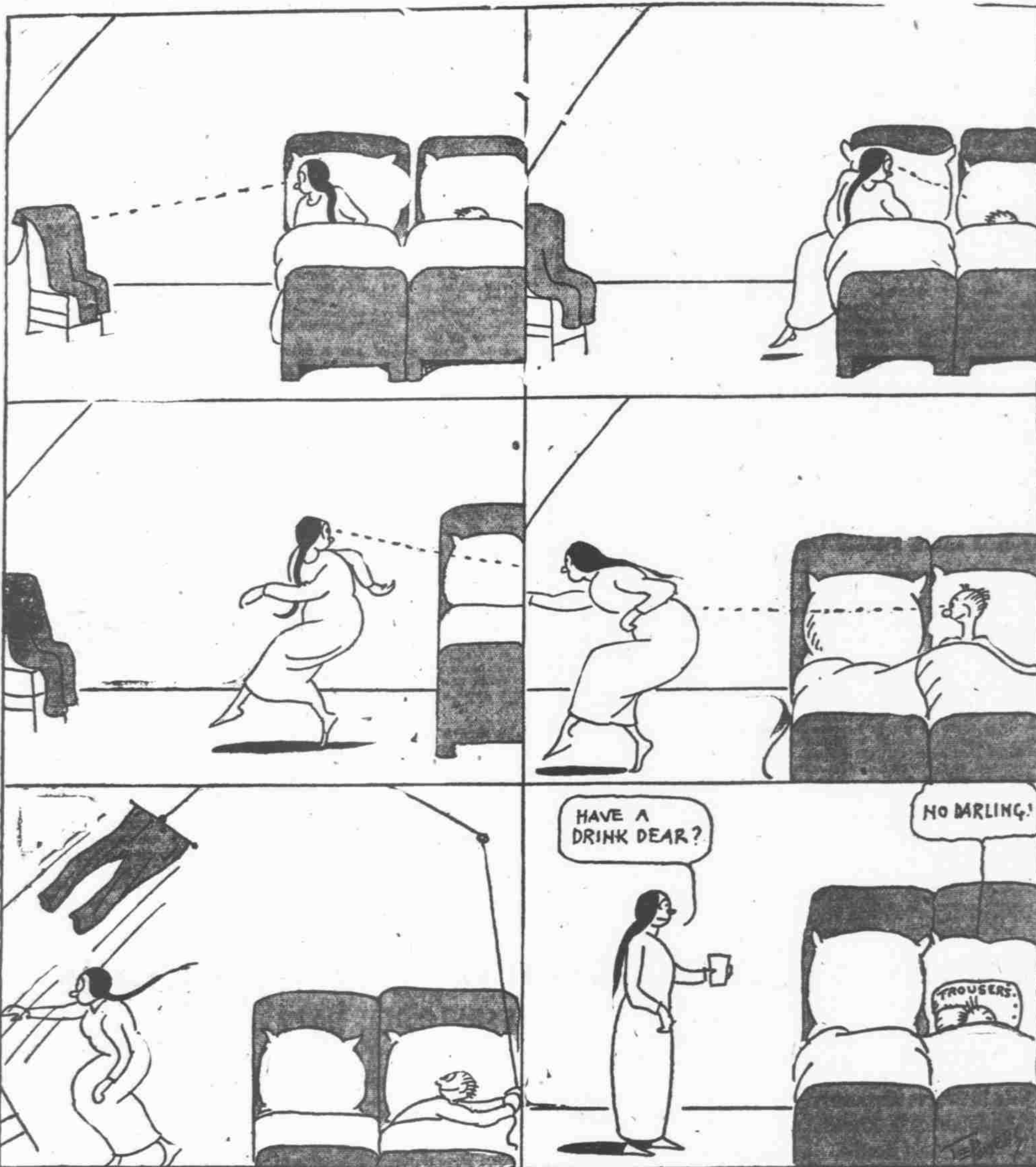
In the clinkly creak of embers
There is sound of childish glee
And the curling smoke is laden
With a joyous jubilee.
Sweeter still the vision tempest
And a blue flame simmers low
Where a white one minnows with it
And a mother smiles at you!

But the fagots soon are cinders,
And your dream is doomed to naught,
When a flaming fire-log flounders
On the hearth to break your thought.
And the ocean, realistic,
With its ever-churning foam,
Stretches in again between you
And the folks that wait at home.

The League of Husbands

First to the
Trousers Wins

By T. E. Powers



Beatrice Fairfax Writes of the Problems and Pitfalls of the War Workers
Especially for Washington Women

TODAY'S TOPIC
Incorporated Parenthood For Children.

NOW that war work is over and so many fine and capable women find themselves with a margin of leisure on their hands, I wish some of them would start in Washington something on the lines of the "Westchester County Children's Association."

The W. C. C. A. acts as wise and provident god-parent to children whose parents are dead or disabled. It undertakes to solve those problems of child-life which neglected in youth mean failure and life ruin.

It is supported entirely by small voluntary contributions—a dollar here and there, sometimes two, occasionally five. It recognizes that education is as important as food and the protection from disease and temptation. Children who are denied school go through life handicapped.

When a family is so poor that a child must stay at home to do housework, help to nurse the sick, or otherwise assist his family the W. C. C. A. hires a substitute and sees that the child remains in school.

It sends nurses in case of sickness and a houseworker to make things tidy, and cook the meals if the mother of the family is ill and the work would fall on the children.

It realizes that child labor in factories is often no worse than child labor on farms and in poverty-stricken homes and the W. C. C. A. watches the home, and the farm, and the factory. It makes sure that false certificates are not given to enable children to work before they are old enough and strong enough.

It keeps an eye on the weight of children and sees to it that school teachers watch the bodily as well as the mental progress of their charges. Many victims of the infantile paralysis scourge of 1916 are still suffering, still in need of braces and care. The W. C. C. A. gathers them in.

Intervention on behalf of children arrested and brought before the courts or released on probation is also one of the association's activities. A study of laws relating to children and their codification and amendment is another.

How gratifying it would be if a similar association could be organized in Washington for the welfare of children.

Since that evening, which was only a week ago, she has called me up over the telephone four times, asking me to call again.

Now, Miss Fairfax, I am writing to see if you can give me any advice on this matter. Do you think it proper for a young lady to display so much forwardness and so much affection for a young man whom she has just met? Would you advise me to call again?

G. M. H.
This young lady, like a good many others, has spoiled her chances of friendship by an over-eagerness as wanting in understanding as it is unpleasant. No one should undertake to fish in this desperate fashion, and I do not wonder at the tone of your letter. You can always tell her that an-

other engagement prevents you from calling.

This Hero Is In Luck.
DEAR MISS FAIRFAX:
I am a young girl, nineteen years old, and am in a very embarrassing position. I have fallen in love with a wounded soldier, and I have fallen hard, because I can't forget him and my heart grows fonder of him. The trouble is, Miss Fairfax, he has a leg off and he told me once that I was the only girl that treated him like a human being and that he would never love anyone else; but he thought too much of me to ask me to be the wife of a cripple. Now, Miss Fairfax, he has been a hero and I have known him for a little over a year and there can never be anyone else. His leg has nothing to do with it; should I tell him that I love him or would it be too forward? I am awfully bashful, so please tell me

how I can go about telling him that I would marry him. Thanking you if you will advise me in The Evening Times.

A GIRL WHO WAS LEFT BEHIND.
Perfect Measurements.

DEAR MISS FAIRFAX:
Please publish the measurements of a "perfect woman," and also state what the words "a perfect 36" means. B. A. M.

The measurements of the Venus di Medici are supposed to represent those of a perfect woman. The term "perfect 36" originated in the cloak and suit trade, and referred to models thirty-six inches bust measure, which was the average size.

Deserted By Husband.
DEAR MISS FAIRFAX:
Will you kindly give me your advice and tell me what I can do. I was married at the age of sixteen, and was the mother of two baby girls at eighteen. My husband was a drinking man and I could not stand him, but I put up with him until I was a perfect nervous wreck, for the babies' sake. I went back to my dear dad and raised my babies and pulled myself together again. My mother being dead I kept house for my dad, and with his help got along fine. Now it is ten years since I left my husband and have not heard or seen him for last seven years. I want to know if I am free from him, or what I can do to get a divorce? I have not received one cent from him since we parted, either for the children or myself. My father has been dead for the last three years, and I have no one to give me any advice, so will you please tell me what I can do to get free or what grounds I can get a divorce, or if you could tell me some lawyer to see for advice. Thanking you in advance, BLUE EYES.

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Good-By, Sunshine Mary!

Regulations That Deprive Her of a Little Wooden Table To Sell Her Papers Have About Put Her Out of Business.

By EARL GODWIN.

For years Sunshine Mary has sold her newspapers and magazines at 15th and G streets, but the police of the First precinct are now enforcing police regulations so strictly that she can no longer put her little table on the sidewalk and she says she will go out of business rather than carry on a continuous fight against the authorities. It might help if the regulations affecting all merchants and other business here were loosened instead of tightened. That would be one way to attract business to the city.



While we are reforming the wicked city of Washington we must observe strictly all the regulations, and therefore must not show the slightest partiality.

For instance, the little table that Sunshine Mary used to hold her newspapers and magazines in a niche in the wall of the Riggs Building is a violation of the regulations and must, therefore, be taken from her.

You can see in the picture that Mary has piled her newspapers on the sidewalk close against the building. It is a violation of the police regulations for her to keep that table there.

Around the corner from Sunshine Mary, the Washington, Baltimore and Annapolis cars park WHOLE TRAINS on public space; and every day the street car companies violate the orders of the Public Utilities Commission. I am glad to see the police are adhering strictly to all regulations, because if they are sincere it means that sooner or later they will have cleaned up the situation with regard to the small folks and will begin on the W., B. and A., and perhaps the street car companies will be fined for non-compliance with regulations.

HEARD AND SEEN

The greatest achievement of modern times comes to light through a meeting of Eagle Patrol, Boy Scout Troop No. 8, Thursday evening, when I learn that JIMMY WILSON, who is the son of the lawmaker of the same name, succeeded in getting twenty sticks of chewing gum into his mouth at once and chewing them all in one large wad.

DO OYSTERS GROW IN INDIANA?

Mr. Weidmann's twenty-five dollar pearl, taken from an Indiana shellfish, was the subject of discussion all over Washington last night. I guess for a twenty-five dollar pearl 'most anybody would call a mussel an oyster. Perhaps that's why the originator of this controversy declares oysters grow in Indiana. Now comes a gentleman who contrasts the Wabash bluepoint to the Potomac Bathing Beach mussel.

Mr. Jerry A. Mathews in referring to mussels makes the statement that "they look much like the bivalve in the East, but they are larger." In this I would like to take friendly issue with him, for the reason that one who did not know might have been led to believe from his words just quoted that mussels are not found here in this part of the country. Therefore I desire to make mention of the fact that I have seen mussels found right here in Washington—in the tidal basin—on the site of the new bathing beach. I particularly recall that on one occasion a boy stood on the muddy bottom of the basin, in near the shore where the water was not deep, and felt around for these mussels with his

feet, and each time one was located he dove beneath the water and brought it up. I have also found them myself.

Mr. Mathews further states that the mussels of Indiana were larger than the oyster of the East. I would like to say here that the mussels found in the Potomac river are much narrower than the oyster, although they are, in a great number of cases, longer. The shell being very dark and thin, and resembling not in the least that of an oyster. In fact, they more nearly resemble a clam—with the exception of color. The meat obtained from them also looks like that of a clam.

In conclusion I would like to say that while the dictionary says they are edible, and have, no doubt, been eaten, I have never known that they were used for any other purpose than fish bait.

GEORGE H. CROSS,
1911 Pennsylvania avenue.

Rents.
Is it true that all apartment rents are to be raised 25 per cent? I can't believe it. If it is TRUE, what am I to do? I am a clerk. I cannot afford to pay more—I cannot afford to pay a penny more for rent than I do. I have no "lease"—so I have no opportunity to look for rooms. It is the first time I have ever felt that I am merely a cumberer of the earth. What ARE we to do? I am not asking personal help, it is the situation which needs advice—and investigation. One woman more or less does not matter; but is there nothing better to look forward to by those growing up?

Is there NO escape?
SUBSCRIBER.

Protests Commissioners' Order

We have recently been relieved of the necessity of hurrying out at 12:30 and standing in line to get a bite to eat, paying twice what it is worth, and then rushing back to our desks by 1 o'clock. We have been able to secure a nice wholesome lunch for a reasonable price just before we enter our office building in the morning. At noon we have sufficient time to eat and enjoy it.

Now comes along an order from the District Commissioners to "Loafers' Liberty Lunch" that after May 29 they must keep moving on wheels when not selling. This means that we will again be obliged to chase around to find a bite to eat, as we will not know where to find the wagons. This order seems to us most inconsistent when peanut vendors, fruit dealers, and dozens of hawkers, selling fake novelties, are allowed to use the streets to their pleasure. In fact, we are inclined to think that

the restaurant and lunch-room people who have been protesting at the expense of Government war workers for the past two years have a hand in this recent order. It seems unfair to tell a man to move on who is giving a service which is much needed and which takes such a small space on the street or sidewalk, and which is occupied less than an hour each day. We have concluded that the District Commissioners have very little consideration for the Government workers.

We will be very grateful if you can find space to publish these few words of protest as there are about 8,000 Government employees affected by this order.

CHARLES J. WESTERLY,
AUGUSTUS V. LUCAS,
CLARENCE S. HIGERT,
CHRISTINE HUMPHREYS,
EDITH STEWART,
Internal Revenue.

What's Doing; Where; When

Today.
Meeting—U. S. Employees' Saturday Afternoon Holiday Club, Public Library, at 7:30 p. m.
Meeting—Kansas State Society, Wilson Normal School, 8 p. m.
Meeting—University of Washington Alumni, Miller's Cabin, Rock Creek Park.
Picnic—Indiana Society, Zoological Park, 3 to 5 p. m.
Picnic—Michigan State Society, Pierce's Mill, Rock Creek Park, 3 p. m.
Manicure—Big Sisters Club, Thomson School, tonight.
Community Fete and Carnival—Central High School, 2:30 to 11 p. m.
Concert—U. S. Marine Band, the Ellipse, 8 p. m.
Debate—Peace Students' Association, Peace Institute, 7:30 p. m.
Tomorrow.
Celebration—Sodality Union, St. Paul's Church, 16th and V streets northwest.
Meeting—Herz Club, Y. M. H. A. rooms, 11th and Pennsylvania avenue.
Vesper Services—Churches of Washington, Ellipse, 8 p. m.
Open-Air Services—Y. M. C. A. and Inter-Church Committee, Lincoln Park, 4 p. m.
Water Excursion—Shad Bake Committee, Board of Trade, to Baltimore.